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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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DOCKET NO. E-20633A-08-0513

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF THE SOLAR ALLIANCE FOR A DECLARATORY ORDER THAT PROVIDERS OF CERTAIN SOLAR SERVICE AGREEMENTS WOULD NOT BE PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS

SALT RIVER PROJECT AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT AND POWER DISTRICT'S LIST OF ISSUES FOR HEARING

Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District ("SRP"), pursuant to the Procedural Order dated May 13, 2009, files its list of issues that should be considered at a hearing on Solar Alliance's application.

The procedural order of May 13, 2009 lists three procedural issues:

- 1. Whether the Alliance has standing to bring the Application;
- 2. What issues should be addressed in this proceeding; and
- 3. Whether a hearing should be held, and if so, the issues that should be considered during the hearing.

The procedural order directs each party who believes that a hearing is needed to provide a list of issues to be considered at the hearing.

As SRP is a party who believes that a hearing is needed to address the issues raised by the application, SRP responds by listing the issues that should be considered at the hearing.

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1. Issues relating to whether the Alliance has standing to bring this application.

The standing of the Solar Alliance to bring this application is largely a legal one. But, the analysis would benefit from an understanding of:

- Who are the members of the Solar Alliance
- Which members are promoting this Arizona application
- Who is funding the effort

- What are the business plans and models of the real parties in interest
- 2. Issues relating to whether the Alliance members are public service corporations.

The hearing would explore the core of this application, whether Solar Alliance members who carry out the business model set forth in the application are public service corporations, as defined by the Arizona Constitution. Facts to be ascertained at hearing would be those generally bearing on this issue and would focus on the cumulative impact of the eight factors listed in the *Serv-Yu* case¹:

- (1) What the corporation actually does. Here we do not actually have a corporation bringing the application. The hearing would explore who are the real parties in interest, what are their current activities, and what are their business plans. In addition, the hearing would examine whether energy sales by Solar Alliance members to retail customers are incidental to the "package" of other services provided.
- (2) A dedication to public use. The hearing would explore the business models and plans to determine the extent to which Solar Alliance members would replace the functions of other public service corporations. The hearing would also address the effect of excess energy, not consumed by Solar Alliance customers, that is sold back to the host utility.
- (3) Articles of incorporation, authorization, and purposes. Solar Alliance requested Commission action without consideration of this factor. However, such information would be helpful in identifying the real parties in interest and explore their business

¹ Natural Gas Serv. Co. v. Serv-Yu Coop., 84 P.U.R.(NS) 148, 70 Ariz. 235, 237-8, 219 P.2d 324, 325-26 (1950)

plans and models.

- (4) Dealing with the service of a commodity in which the public has been generally held to have an interest. Again, the hearing would examine Solar Alliance's contention that its members' sales of energy are merely incidental to a "package of services." It would though be helpful to explore potential consumer protection issues that may arise from the business models, including whether customers of host utilities who do not contract with Solar Alliance members will pay higher rates to cover costs not borne by Solar Alliance customers.
- (5) Monopolizing or intending to monopolize the territory with a public service commodity. Again, the business model and projections should be explored in making this determination.
- (6) Acceptance of substantially all requests for service. The assumption is that the members will seek to serve all who meet their business objectives, but it would be helpful to explore these objectives.
- (7) Service under contracts and reserving the right to discriminate is not always controlling. The hearing would explore the type and nature of the contracts.
- (8) Actual or potential competition with other corporations whose business is clothed with public interest. The hearing would explore the essential and central issue of the changes that the application would bring to the electricity market, and the public interest implications of these changes. The public interest would include the impact on customers, the impacts on system reliability, and the impacts on the ability of the existing utilities to provide economical and reliable service.

3. Issues relating to the public interest

In every application the Commission considers the public interest implications of its decision. Some of the public interest implications of the application will be explored in the analysis of the eight factors of the *Serv-Yu* case. But, the issues may go beyond this analysis. Issues could include:

- What are the consumer protection issues?
- How are the consumer protection issues to be addressed?
- What are the public policy implications of the Solar Alliance model?
- What costs will be imposed on customers?
- How does the Solar Alliance model relate to overall resource planning?

• Whether the public interest is served by a blanket exemption from regulation for all Solar Alliance members, rather than a case-by-case determination about individual members?

SRP submits that the burden of going forward to establish these facts should be with the applicant, the Solar Alliance.

DATED this 15th day of June, 2009.

JENNINGS, STROUSS & SALMON, P.L.C.

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